

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 13-21 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification and claims 1-3, 5-10, and 13-21 are amended. No new matter is added.

I. Objection to Drawings

The drawings are objected to because reference character 9 is not mentioned in the specification. Applicants have amended the specification so that reference character 9 describes the twisted yarn.

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

II. Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-10 and 13-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,635,259 to Layton in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,497,608 to Matsumoto; and over U.S. Patent No. 5,888,914 to Katz in view of Matsumoto. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The amended claim 1 recites fiber materials, ..., comprising: polyamide fiber containing at least titanium oxide; and silk fiber, wherein both the fibers exist in a state of mutual contact. The claimed invention is advantageous over Layton, Katz, and Matsumoto because the recited structural arrangement prevents the silk fiber from yellowing over time due to light or sweat, prevents the resulting structure from being contaminated with toxic gas, and prevents the strength and the warmth retention of the fabric from decreasing over time. Claim 13 recites similar features.

Layton fails to teach the claimed invention, because it only teaches combining wool with polyester or other natural or synthetic materials such as cotton, mohair, or nylon. (Abstract; col. 1, lines 20-47). Like Layton, Katz also fails to teach the claimed invention because it only teaches yarns that comprise a combination of hydrophilic fibers including cotton or wool with hydrophobic fiber, including nylon. (col. 2, lines 30-32).

Matsumoto fails to remedy either Layton's or Katz's deficiencies because it only teaches a polyester yarn that includes titanium oxide. (col. 10, lines 30-35 and col. 26, lines 60-65). It does not teach or suggest silk fiber.

Even if Layton or Katz can be combined (which Applicants do not admit) with Matsumoto, the resulting structure would be a fiber that includes hydrophilic fiber including cotton or wool with a polyester containing titanium oxide. There is no suggestion or motivation to replace Layton's or Katz's wool or cotton with silk, or that Matsumoto's polyester containing titanium oxide can be combined with Layton's or Katz's composite fiber to prevent any natural fiber from yellowing or degrading over time. Therefore, none of the applied references can reasonably teach or suggest the claimed invention.

It is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: April 30, 2007

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